

19th March 1959]

*Minimum wages for rice mill workers in Erode taluk*

\* 893 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to implement the minimum wages according to the award of 1956 for rice mill workers in Erode taluk?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: There was no award in 1956 regarding the payment of minimum wages for rice mill workers in Erode taluk. Towards the close of 1955, the Government fixed minimum wages for the workers employed in any rice mill, flour or dhall mills in this State. These rates are enforced in Erode taluk also.

*Land Colonisation Society*

\* 894 Q.—SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY PILLAI (on behalf of SRI V. SANKARAN): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) how far the proposal of the Government to form a Land Colonisation Society at Keisampatti village in Melur taluk has been implemented; and

(b) how many more similar societies are to be organised in the Madurai district?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) Proposals for the organization of a Collective Farming Society instead of a Land Colonisation Society in the area is under investigation. The Deputy Registrar, Madurai, has been asked to work out details of the scheme.

(b) Proposals for the organization of four more Co-operative Farming Societies in the district (three Tenant Farming type and one Joint Farming type) are under investigation.

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN: When did this investigation start and how long will it continue?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: It started in 1957. The investigation continues because there is difficulty in locating the land and also finding tenants to come into the new area.

*Ex-servicemen in Kanyakumari District*

\* 895 Q.—SRI M. K. SOMASUNDARAM (on behalf of SRI T. T. DANIEL): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to give lands to the landless ex-servicemen of Kanyakumari district; and

(b) the reliefs which the Government have given so far to the ex-servicemen of this district?